GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4008
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2005
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING COUNCIL R & D PROGRAMME
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects under the Science and Engineering Research Council R&D Programmes sanctioned during the year 2003-04 and their details, discipline-wise and also allocation of fund made for each project;

(b) whether any monitoring has been done about the outcome of already sanctioned projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the achievements/outcome of these projects has been brought to the benefit and knowledge of general public;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (f): The Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) which is composed of eminent scientists, technologists drawn from various Universities / National Laboratories and industries is an apex body through which the Department of Science and Technology promotes R & D programmes in newly emerging and frontier areas of science and engineering. About 377 R&D projects costing approximately Rs. 94.1 crores had been sanctioned as detailed below:

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Physical Sciences    - 33  Projects - Rs.    6.2 crores
Chemical Sciences   - 77  Projects - Rs. 13.5 crores
Life Sciences    - 100  Projects - Rs. 16.5 crores
Engineering Sciences   - 90  Projects - Rs. 10.2 crores


Earth, Atmospheric    - 30  Projects - Rs.    4.7 crores
& Mathematical Sciences


Centres of Excellence   - 12  Projects - Rs.23 .0 crores
Nanoscience    - 35  Projects - Rs. 20.0 crores
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SERC supports various types of activities which include project support to scientists, core groups and centres of excellence, national research facilities and programmes for quality manpower development.

The performance of the R & D activities is continuously monitored through various Programme Advisory Committees (PAC) and Monitoring Workshops. Major projects are evaluated through specially constituted Expert Committees including on-site monitoring. These rigorous monitoring mechanisms generate development of appropriate models and methodology for implementation of the R&D projects.

Significant achievements have been made in supporting these basic R&D projects. These are brought out regularly in appropriate Publications covering research highlights and through News Letter.